

June 24, 1997

VPCD-97-07 (LDV/LDT/SM/ICI/LIMO)

Dear Manufacturer:

SUBJECT: Data Transmittal to EPA's Data Base

As you know, over the last year, EPA has been implementing a new computer system, called IOV-CFEIS (Initial Operating Version - Certification and Fuel Economy Information System). The purpose of this letter is to request assistance from manufacturers regarding transfer of EPA test data into the IOV-CFEIS data base; provide new guidance for testing vehicles at EPA; provide a status of the various computer programs available under IOV-CFEIS; and provide user tips for entering data into the IOV-CFEIS data base.

Transferring EPA Test Data into IOV-CFEIS

Enclosure I contains a list of EPA confirmatory tests which have been conducted since August 22, 1996. So that EPA can transfer this test data into the IOV-CFEIS data base, EPA requests that manufacturers provide EPA with the IOV-CFEIS test vehicle VID and configuration number for each test. EPA will then transfer the data into IOV-CFEIS and place an electronic copy of the output report in the manufacturer's output file or mail a hard copy of the output report to the manufacturer.

If possible, manufacturers should supply this information to the CFEIS team e-mail address (omscfeis.group@epamail.epa.gov). Alternatively, a paper copy may be given to their certification team member. In either case, please be sure that errors on the IOV-CFEIS Vehicle Information (VI) report have been corrected. This information is needed for EPA tests which will be used to support summary sheets, fuel economy labels and CAFE calculations (and should not be provided for void or unused EPA tests).

New Guidance for Testing Vehicles at EPA

After July 14, 1997, manufacturers will be required to have VI and Manufacturers Test Data in the IOV-CFEIS data base prior to testing a vehicle at EPA. We encourage manufacturers to begin this process as soon as possible, because it will expedite EPA's transfer of the EPA test data into IOV-CFEIS.

Manufacturers should continue to fill out the EPA Testing Service Vehicle Information Request Form. This information is needed to help make a smooth transition to the IOV-CFEIS confirmatory test process. In the future, we intend reduce the information required to be hand entered on this form, to eliminate duplication. Enclosure II contains the latest version of this form, revised 6/23/97.

Status of IOV-CFEIS Computer Programs

EPA is pleased with the progress that manufacturers have made in the past two months using the new computer system. Many summary sheets and certificates have been processed using the new data base. Since June 6, input files to the dial-in modem have been automatically picked up and processed every two hours, on the even hours, 24 hours a day, from noon on Sunday to midnight Friday. Turn around time is typically 2 hours or less. Enclosure III to this letter contains the current status of the IOV-CFEIS data base.

User Tips for Using IOV-CFEIS

- To obtain an IOV-CFEIS user manual and other documents which were distributed at the previous industry meetings, please contact Sally Hollowell at (313) 741-7904 or you may download this information from EPA's CFEIS Internet site at <http://www.epa.gov/OMSWWW/gopher/Cert/CFEIS/>.
- Helpful answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) are available on EPA's CFEIS Internet site, at the above address. New information is added to the file on a weekly basis.
- When submitting IOV-CFEIS summary sheets, please be sure that the numbering system is continuous from any previously submitted interim (Filemaker Pro) summary sheets. Guidance is provided in the frequently asked questions (above).
- Highway test data should not be entered on summary sheets.

In closing, we would like to thank all manufacturers' data staff for extra effort and commitment they have made to this project over the past year. We welcome any suggestions to improve the new system and look forward to a smooth running, user friendly CFEIS data base in the near future. Please submit suggestions to our e-mail address (omscfeis.group@epamail.epa.gov).

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact your certification team representative.

Sincerely,

Jane Armstrong, Director
Vehicle Programs and Compliance Division
Office of Mobile Sources

Enclosures

ENCLOSURE III

Status of EPA CFEIS Data Base Programs

| | |
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| Car/Truck Information | Available now |
| Engine System Information | |
| Hard Copy Data | Available now |
| Electronic Submission | Available now |
| Evaporative System Information | Available now |
| Vehicle Information | Available now |
| Shift Schedule Information | Available now |
| Manufacturer Test Data | Available now |
| Summary Sheets | |
| IOV-CFEIS | Available now--but contains duplicate EDV records; will be corrected soon. |
| Interim (Filemaker Pro)* | Available until 7/14/97 (for emergency use only) |
| General Label | June 20 (manual processing) July 14 (automatic processing) |
| CAFE | October |
| 01-31 Report | Available now but not all data are reported; error free by July 7. A simplified version of the report is available on request. |

*All 1996, 1997, and 1998 Interim Summary Sheets must be entered in the IOV-CFEIS data base (by December 1, 1997 if possible). Except in rare cases, EPA does not intend to issue any 1999 certificates for a manufacturer until the manufacturer has entered all their 1996, 1997, and 1998 Interim Summary Sheets in IOV-CFEIS.